



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Office of the Chief Health and Medical Officer – Occupational Health
Monthly Newsletter August 2011

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◆ 2011 Occupational Health (OH) Meeting

Descends on Albuquerque: The 2011 edition of the annual NASA OH Meeting was held in Albuquerque, NM on July 11-15, and was another huge success. Speakers addressed many diverse and current topics



throughout the week's session in all disciplines of the NASA OH Program. As in years past there were a variety of session formats and presentations on a diverse set of topics such as infectious disease, civility, Fukushima nuclear disaster, Globally Harmonized System (GHS), and leveraging smart technology. The meeting continues to focus on educating and informing OH professionals on the current issues of today in addition to providing a forum for discussion amongst NASA OH professionals on the issues affecting our NASA Centers. The meeting concluded with a site visit to the DOE's Sandia National Laboratory on Friday. Above is a picture of EAP attendees who had sessions throughout the week.

◆ 2012 OH Meeting Heads

to Atlanta: OCHMO has chosen Atlanta, GA as the site of next year's meeting. Official dates will be announced when established, but make plans now in your training budget for the summer to attend the meeting in beautiful Atlanta.



◆ **EHRS Update:** The planning and preparations for the Glenn Research Center (GRC) Medgate training continues. The Medical Module training is planned for August 9, 10 and 11 and will be a role based training. The Industrial Hygiene Module is planned for August 10 and 11. Dr. Rafiq will be visiting GRC the first week in August in preparation for the training sessions coordinating with medical, industrial hygiene and IT security. The Pulmonary Function interface with Medgate GX is now operational at both Langley Research Center (LRC) and Stennis Space Center (SSC). The issues with audiometric interface continue to be worked; at GRC the interface attempt will be supported by the Medgate consultant on site, Medgate Helpdesk and the Agency Occupational Health (OH) Support Office staff. The historic audiometric files for LRC have been successfully loaded into the Medgate GX Production environment.

◆ **HealthierYou 2011:** We have received and forwarded to the HPW Team the Walk to Wellness (WTW) Outcomes data. Our outcomes data was very much aligned with the goals of the Campaign including to raise awareness about the value of exercise, get people walking throughout the campaign, and increase exercise self-efficacy. Center specific enrollment and completion files for WTW were shared with the Centers last

month along with incentives files and incentives to recognize participating employees. Thank you for taking part in the survey to status your 2011 HPW Action Plan. This information was shared with NASA Office of Human Capital and OPM. Keep in mind that OPM is planning to hold a WellCheck survey sometime during the summer/fall timeframe (date TBD). We will need to revisit the 2011 HPW Action Plan before the end of the calendar year to wrap up our year's activities. Two flyers, Be Food Safe and Sunscreen Products were developed and distributed to the HPW Team in support of the FDA's goals to educate and to protect the health of the public. Utilize the Mayo Clinic EmbodyHealth portal for additional information related to these issues and continue to promote the page as a measure of your health promotion and protection activities.



◆ **Congratulations to Lynn Hogan:** Congratulations to Lynn Hogan, Deputy Chief Nurse and Workers Comp/Nurse Case Manager at JSC who recently passed the [Certified Occupational Health Nurse Specialist](#) (COHN-S) exam.

Successfully completing a professional certification is one way to demonstrate a commitment to excellence. In the agency office we continue to encourage and support Center staff in preparing for a variety of OH professional exams.



◆ **A Focus on the Value of EH Programs:** At the recently concluded NASA OH Meeting EH attendees heard a presentation on the [Value Strategy Manual](#) recently published by AIHA. OCHMO is currently putting together a planned webinar series which will follow the contents of the Value Strategy Manual. This publication systematically goes through the process of developing and communicating a "value" message, which establishes the value of EH programs. We hope this planned webinar series will help provide some of the tools that Center EH personnel need to effectively communicate the overall value of EH programs.



◆ **Health Physics News:** The quarterly HP ViTS was held on Wednesday July 27, presentation material from the HP ViTS can always be found at the [EH ViTS archive page](#). Recently the proceedings from the Triennial NASA Health Physics Meeting were finalized and disseminated to attendees. If you have not received a copy of this CD but would like to, please contact [Kurt Geber](#).



◆ Upcoming OH ViTS & Webinars:

- Fitness ViTS – August 2, 2:00-3:30 EDT
- EH ViTS – August 9, 11:00-12:00 EDT
- Workers' Compensation ViTS – August 11, 1:30-2:30 EDT
- Health Promotion ViTS – September 6, 1:30-2:30 EDT
- EH ViTS – September 7, 11:00-12:00 EDT
- EAP ViTS – September 13, 11:00-12:30 EDT

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Send information, comments or questions to:

◆ E-mail – Bart.D.Geyer@nasa.gov ◆ Telephone – 321-867-3473

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